

THE TIMES.



FAYETTE:

SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 1847.

PUBLIC MEETING.

A public meeting of the citizens of Howard county will be held in this place, on the **FIRST MONDAY IN APRIL NEXT** to appoint Delegates to the *Rail Road Convention*, to be held on the *First Wednesday in June next*, (at such place as shall hereafter be agreed upon,) and also to appoint delegates to the *Western River and Harbor Convention*, to be held in St. Louis, on the *Tenth Day of May next*.

We return our sincere thanks to several friends who have exerted themselves in procuring subscribers to the "Times." We hope they will continue their exertions, on all proper occasions. It costs them nothing, benefits us and those who become subscribers. It would be a very small task for each one of our present subscribers to procure one new one—the favor would be a great one to us. *They can do it. Will they?*

TOWN ELECTION.

An election for President and Five Trustees, for the town of Fayette, will be held on Monday, the 5th day of April next.

HOWARD HIGH SCHOOL.—An examination of the pupils of this institution commenced on Thursday morning, and was still progressing yesterday when we went to press. A large number of persons were in attendance, and the exercises seemed to give general satisfaction.

For commencement of next session, terms, &c., see advertisement in another column.

FROM THE ARMY.

Gen. Scott reached Tampico on the 19th ult. Active preparations were in progress, and it was supposed the troops were destined for Vera Cruz, which place, it is said, has been evacuated by the Mexicans. There had been several mild cases of small pox at Matamoros.

Another company of Kentucky volunteers, 17 in number, under Capt. Heady, have fallen into the hands of the enemy, and been sent to San Luis. It is said that Major Gaines, Captains Daniels and Clay, and the 80 men who were taken prisoners with them, have all been killed.

Gen. Butler, who is sick, has returned to New Orleans.

Santa Anna's movements are a perfect mystery to our army. At Tampico, he was supposed to be in the direction of Monterey—while news from that quarter shows that they suppose him on the coast. We have but little doubt that another battle has been fought.

The professional and salaried men of St. Louis, talk of a public meeting, to express their feelings on the subject of the Act to sustain the credit of the State.

IOWA.—The Legislature of Iowa adjourned on the 25th ult., without electing United States Senators, or Judges of the Supreme Court. The locofocos of the Senate, refused to meet the house for these purposes. The session has been a very turbulent one, and much, if not the whole of it, may be set down to the loco party. The locos of the House left in a body, on the last day of the session, to prevent the election of a whig printer, but were not able to prevent it. The people of Iowa will doubtless place the proper construction upon these acts.

Brother Boon is not pleased with our saying he showed the white feather in the "little controversy" he has been engaged in recently with the Boonville Bulletin. He indulges in some wit, in connection with our name and proposes to alter the matter so as to make it appear that the feather he showed was neither, white, green, black or yellow, but a combination of the two last. This combination is the favorite color of His Excellency, and as he is aspiring to the gubernatorial Chair, of course he wishes to adopt it, and follow in the *mockasin prints*.

We will sing that song, if you will preach a sermon from the 8th commandment—in which it will be expected you will show how to get titles to Church Property, and may embrace the occasion to speak of other matters which will suggest themselves.—Or, if you dislike to discourse upon these subjects, you may dance a horn-pipe, in the same garb you once appeared in on the streets of Franklin.

Won't they "come out" then?

The examination of the scholars of Mr. HENDRIX's school took place on Thursday last. Our engagements prevented us from being present, but those who were there, were well pleased. The exhibition in the evening "went off" well.

THE "ACT TO SUSTAIN THE CREDIT OF THE STATE."

We have already published the act to sustain the credit of the State, and made some remarks thereon. Not a single press, as far as we have observed, either whig or loco, has spoken in defence of this act; some of the loco presses, it is true, have come tardily to the rescue, by decanting upon the impossibility of passing a law which will please every body, the proneness of the people to grumble at revenue laws, &c.—but as for attempting to show that it was a wise law—that the objects of taxation were wisely selected, and that its operations would be impartial—there are none of them verdant enough for that!

It may be well enough for us to state here, that the representative from Howard, C. F. Jackson, Esq., was the especial champion of this law, and, we believe, since his return home, has publicly fathered it. It was brought forward just before the close of the session, and passed in a *drunken frolic*, we are told by a democratic press. When the vote was taken upon its passage in the House, it stood yeas 49, nays 24—showing 27 members either absent, sick, or too drunk to vote!

Recollect, fellow-citizens, when you pay your taxes this year that the increase is the work of your late representative—mechanics and clerks, when you are called upon for one per cent of your wages, recollect who originated the law, and that we have good democratic authority for saying it was passed in a *drunken frolic*!

We shall have more to say on this subject hereafter. For the present we dismiss it, by copying the following extracts from the Missouri Statesman, to which we invite the attention of our readers:

"The bill, all in all, is without example in the legislative history of the country. Not having the moral courage to meet the crisis with the boldness of conscious right by levying a constitutional tax upon the property of the people, it seeks to quiet their murmurings by the legendary process of assessing a rate bill upon physicians and lawyers—a bill which will finally be paid out of the pockets of the people themselves. It does that indirectly which it had not the independence to do directly. It was conceived in the spirit of demagoguism, and panders to ignorant and ignoble prejudices—hoping thus to cover its retreat by an outcry against 'lawyers and doctors.' Usurping authority not conferred by the constitution, it levies a tax upon knowledge—a tax which is unconstitutional and void. A similar tax upon the skill of the Mechanic and Farmer—upon the Carpenter, Cabinet-maker, Brick-layer, Painter, Shoemaker, Saddler, Herdsman, Florist, Tobacco, Wheat, Hemp and Corn Planter, and any other and all other trades, callings and professions in society—a tax upon their knowledge and skill, as such, is clearly within the scope of the same policy and just as constitutional. Property and not knowledge is a constitutional object of taxation, and the taxes upon this should be in proportion to its value.

Under the 14th section of this bill all private individuals who are receiving an annual or stated salary for their services, are taxed one per cent, upon the amount of said salary. This will include Journeymen Mechanics and Tradesmen of all kinds who are employed at stated wages: Journeymen Saddlers, Carpenters, Blacksmiths, Tailors, Shoemakers, Tanners, Printers, Bookbinders, Tinners, Clerks, Salesmen, and all other employments in life, save the hired laborers upon a farm, will come in for their share. And more than this! Under this section all Teachers of Schools (Male and Female); Ministers of the Gospel; all Agents for Bible, Tract, Missionary, and other societies and also agents for Sabbath Schools—all these, and more than these, are objects of taxation to the tune of one per cent.—And what is more, the 16th section makes the bill retrospective in its operation, on which no count the assessments for the present year (1847) are to be made under it!

THE MAILS.—We understand Messrs. Frost, Price & Co., have obtained the contract for carrying the mail from Fulton to Glasgow, three times a week, as heretofore. They will commence operations as soon as the road can be stocked. We suppose by this time next week, we shall be in the regular receipt of the mails—we hope sooner.

REVIVAL.—There has been quite a revival with the Methodist Church in Boonville. About one hundred and fifty persons have joined the Church.

FOR THE WAR, HO!—Capt. Wm. B. Foster, of Glasgow, is raising a company of men for the war. He will be in town to-day, when all who desire "to fight themselves a farm," and pocket \$12 bounty, will have an opportunity.

Mr. Wimer has made arrangements for a tri-weekly mail on the Missouri river—to be distributed at Jefferson City, Rocheport, Boonville and Glasgow. This mail will leave in the regular packets at 6 o'clock, p. m.—Union.

We received the first fruits of Mr. Wimer's exertions on Thursday.

COUNTERFEIT.—State Bank of Indiana 10's having for its vignette a female sitting and a sailor standing near, pointing to the ocean, on which a vessel is in sight. There is no such vignette, or anything resembling it, on any bill of this bank, and the public need only be advised of it, to prevent its circulation.

ANOTHER.—10's, dated May 10th, 1846; payable at Indianapolis, to H. Bates or bearer; letter A. No. 3491. Vignette, naked figure sitting, a sailor pointing to the water, and a ship in the distance; at the foot of the note, an Indian in a canoe. Engraving coarse.

The population of St. Louis is about forty-eight thousand.

THE DEMOCRAT—THE TARIFF—BRITISH CORN LAWS.

The Democrat has backed from its position, that the present favorable prices the farmers are getting for their products, excepting tobacco, is the legitimate result of the tariff of 1846. It does so by fairly and candidly stating that it is "willing to admit that the value of the breadstuffs of this country have gone up beyond what may be expected to be a stable market for them. ON ACCOUNT of the potatoe rot and the failure of the grain crops in Europe."

This is a candid admission, and disposes of that portion of the subject.

We will proceed to show that it is wrong again. It says: "But the Times will recollect, that simultaneous with, or immediately after the prohibitory duties were taken off of foreign importations in this country, the British Parliament repealed their Corn Laws; and that the fetters thus taken off commerce, admitted the free transportation of our surplus produce to England, which advanced the price at a handsome rate, before any famine existed, and which may be considered permanent."

We will not be particular about dates, as to the new tariff, and repeal of the British Corn Laws; nor need we remind the Democrat that Europe looked to the United States, in part, to furnish breadstuffs, to make up the deficit growing out of the failure of the potatoe crop, before the alteration of our tariff, or the repeal of the British Corn Laws; these would make up an article of themselves, and we pass them over to notice the repeal of the Corn Laws.

This act of the British Parliament was ostensibly put forth and hailed as a *free trade measure*! when, in fact, it was brought about for directly the reverse, viz: *Protection*. It is true, that their repeal may exercise a temporary effect on the price of breadstuffs in this country—but it will only be temporary, and will most probably cost us dearly in the end. But how can the repeal of the Corn Laws operate as a *Protective Measure* to Great Britain? We shall answer this question by quoting from one of the most sagacious political authors of our day, CALVIN COLTON, Esq.

THE CORN LAWS were abolished ostensibly, at one swoop, to make an impression on the world—especially on the people of the United States—as if the British government were approximating to the principles of free trade; whereas, they have never yet made an abatement of impost, except on the principle of protection, or to obtain an equivalent, or more than an equivalent, in some other way. They were forced, in 1845, to remove the duty of half a penny a pound on raw cotton—for what?—not for free trade, as was pretended, but to protect their own manufacturers against those of the United States and of the continent. It was absolutely necessary, as a measure of national policy, to make food as cheap in England, as in manufacturing nations. It was a *national necessity*; and therefore it was done.

Previously, however, by some ten years, to the abolition of the duty on raw cotton, the manufacturers in the north of England, disturbed and menaced by the trades-unions and the system of strikes for higher wages, removed, by a negotiation with the poor law commissioners, 10,000 paupers from the southern counties, into their mills, and thus defeated the unionists and the strikers, and kept down wages.

It now appears, that the primary and chief object of the league for the abolition of the corn laws, was for the benefit of the manufacturing system of Great Britain, and that the former interest was sacrificed—if sacrificed—to save a greater one—one more vital to the British empire—and to keep down wages. The same men, manufacturers (see first annual report of poor law commissioners,) who were engaged in 1834 in dragging paupers against their will, from the south of England, to insure them in the manufacturing of the north, professedly, as appears from their letters to the commissioners, to counteract the trades-unions and keep down wages—were afterward enrolled among the most influential leaders of the league for the abolition of the corn laws; and Sir Robert Peel, naturally sympathizing with that system, which had been to him "the goose that laid the golden egg" (his immense fortune was made in manufacturing,) and not less as a great statesman, put the finishing stroke to the third great measure for the conservation and protection of the British manufacturing system. The first step was forcing the paupers of England, in 1834, into the manufacturing; the next was the removal of duties on raw cotton, in 1845; and the third was the abolition of the corn laws in 1846—all done on the principle of protection, and to maintain the system of low wages, without which British manufactures, the soul and bulwark of the empire, must have fallen. It is now confidently expected and predicted, that, as soon as decency will permit, the wages of operatives in British manufactures will be reduced, by a measure equal to the cheapening of their bread, that the benefit of the abolition of the corn laws may accrue, not to the laborers, but to their employers in other words, to the government; for the government supports these great interests, that they may support the government. The amount of wheat used for paste in the cotton factories, is said to be equal to the supply of all the mouths of the operatives.—Eight hundred thousand bushels are used annually for paste by members of the anti-corn law league, from the tax on which they are already relieved.

This great measure, therefore, which has been hailed far and wide, to the great astonishment of mankind, as a free trade measure—or the movement of a great nation in a philanthropic career, to give the poor cheaper bread—turns out to be the movement of British manufacturers, to bar the necessity of raising the wages of their operatives, and in the end to cheapen them;—and of the British government to sustain and protect the British manufacturing system, as the great bulwark of the empire! Sir Robert Peel saw, that the British corn laws, or the manufacturing system, must fall, and he wisely sealed the doom of the former, to save the latter.

It will be seen, then, what this flourish of British free trade amounts to, viz., that at bottom,

in principle, and in its ultimate practical design, it is directly the opposite of free trade, and that it is one of the most comprehensive and most effective measures of protection ever devised by a statesman. It was also a bold stroke of public policy, both in its domestic and foreign aspects: in its domestic, because it seemed to sacrifice one great interest, to save, strengthen, and fortify, another of far greater importance. In its foreign aspects, because it could be and was ostentatiously held up and proclaimed to the world as a great example of free trade, challenging other nations to follow. The United States were the first to swallow the bait, and be caught! They thought at least, that the abolition of the British corn laws would open a market for American breadstuffs. It will be seen, by-and-by, what is likely to be realized from this expectation.

CONGRESSIONAL.

WASHINGTON, March 3.

In the Senate, the Oregon Territorial Bill was laid on the table, after some debate. The river and harbor bill was adopted. The resolution restoring to Mr. Ritchie his privileges upon the floor of the Senate, was laid on the table.

The Senate then went into Executive session, after which

A recess was taken.

House of Representatives.—The House refused to take up the bills for the relief of Ireland; and the sending of the ships of war Macedonian and Jamestown with food for the suffering Irish.

The Senate amendments to the Naval Pension bill were agreed to.

The House then resolved itself into committee of the whole, on the Senate amendments to the three million bill. The committee rose after debate and reported the bill with the proviso offered by Mr. Wilmot.

The vote being taken, the proviso was rejected—yeas 97, nays 102.

The Senate's amendments were then concurred in, and the bill finally passed by a vote of yeas 115, nays 82. The bill now only requires the President's signature to become a law.

The House then refused to concur in the Senate's amendment striking out from the supplemental Army Bill the provision for the appointment of a General in Chief.

The Amending Sub-Treasury Act was then taken up. Various amendments were offered and rejected—among them one for the repeal of the act of the last session.

The House then took a recess.

SENATE.—The Senate refused to concur in the report of the Conference Committee recommending the adoption of the House provision to the supplemental Army bill, for the appointment of a General in Chief of the forces in Mexico.

The Committee of Conference then adjourned their meetings.

The Civil and Diplomatic bill was then reported.

HOUSE.—The bill amending the Treasury act of last session was carried.

Also, an act to amend an act for providing for additional forces, and the refunding of expenses incurred by the States in equipping volunteers before mustered into service.

The joint resolution for despatching the Macedonian and Jamestown to Ireland, with supplies, was then passed.

The bill for constructing four steamers to be employed in the transportation of the mail between New York and Liverpool was passed.

A resolution of thanks to the Speaker was unanimously adopted.

11 o'clock, p. m.—Neither House has adjourned.

LATER.

The Senate refused to suspend the rules to receive the bill amending the Sub-Treasury act, from the House.

The new Conference Committee reported back the supplemental military bill, omitting the provisions for the appointment of the General in Chief.

In Executive session, the Hon. Charles J. Ingersoll, of Pennsylvania, was nominated Minister to France.

Both Houses passed the bill for the construction of four new steamers, to carry with twelve steamers, offered by private enterprise, the mails between New York, New Orleans, Liverpool, Holland, Chagres and Oregon.

CLOSING PROCEEDINGS.

WASHINGTON, 1 1/2 A. M., March 4.

Both Houses adjourned at 1 o'clock. The Senate rejected the nomination of Charles J. Ingersoll as Minister to France. The President then nominated Richard Rush, and the nomination was confirmed.

Thomas H. Benton, of Missouri, and Col. Cummings, of Georgia, were then nominated Major Generals and confirmed. Messrs. Cadwallader, of Pennsylvania, Hopping, of New York, and Franklin H. Pierce, of N. H., were then nominated Brigadier Generals, and confirmed.

IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

In the New Orleans papers of the 2d inst. we find the following important news: *Report of a battle! The rumored battle between Gen. Taylor and Santa Anna.*

CAMP WATSON, Feb. 17, 4, p. m.

Eds. Delta.—After closing mine of this morning I proceeded to the encampment, and had not dismounted from my horse before I was asked by a thousand persons whether I had the particulars of the fight between Gen. Taylor and Santa Anna at Monterey. I did not know what to make of it for a while, but at last succeeded in obtaining enough items to show that Gen. Taylor had again met the enemy.—As soon as I heard this I repaired to the quarters of Gen. Twiggs, and he stated to me that three Mexicans had arrived this morning from Victoria, who had said that the forces of the Americans after retreating from Saltillo, had made a stand at Monterey, and given fight to the Mexicans under Santa Anna.

The conflict is said to have been long and severe, and the loss great on both sides; but, say the Mexicans, Santa Anna ultimately gave way, having sustained a heavy loss in killed and wounded—among the latter was Gen. Arista. At this moment I have little time for comment. Ever since I have been advised of the departure of the enemy from San Luis de Potosi, I have been expecting to hear the news of a battle. To encounter Gen. Taylor, Santa Anna would wish five times his number of men, and

knowing that, I feared for the issue of a battle, and I must confess to you that I believe more fully that a battle has been fought than I do of the reported result.

If the rumor is true, as reported, (and why should the Mexicans say so against themselves) you will have the particulars long before we will here. CHAPPAHUEL.

Later news renders it almost certain that no battle was fought, as the above letter infers. A letter from Monterey, dated February 3rd, says General Taylor was then at Saltillo, with a force of 5000 men, and that he was expected to advance in the direction of San Luis de Potosi.—It was also supposed the Mexicans were advancing upon Saltillo.

EQUAL REPRESENTATION.

Throughout the whole of the last session of the Legislature, the most indefatigable efforts were made to secure the passage of some resolution that would approximate to equal representation; but all failed. Propositions were made to amend by striking out the two limits that cause inequality; the one that gives to each county one member, and the one which limits the number of members of the House of Representatives to one hundred. It was impossible to carry this proposition in either house, although it was acceptable to most of the friends of equal representation.

A proposition was made to strike out the clause that limits the number of Representatives to one hundred, and make no other change; but this could not succeed. A proposition was then made to enlarge the House of Representatives to one hundred and fifty members, with the privilege of adding a member for every new county that might be created, which, although not equal, was warmly supported by most of the members of the large counties; but it was opposed by the small county men, and by some by whom it ought to have been sustained. It met with no favor in the House of Representatives, and failed of obtaining the constitutional majority of the Senate.

Another proposition was made substantially the same as the complex system that was contained in the new Constitution proposed by the convention. This, although not equal, was sustained by most of the friends of equal representation.—It passed the Senate by the constitutional majority, but was rejected in the House of Representatives.

A proposition was made in the House of Representatives, giving to each county at least one member, and enlarging the House of Representatives to about 140 members. It gave to the small counties one member each, and gave an increase of nearly forty members to be distributed among the larger counties, but adopted a scale of representation that did injustice to the largest counties, and was very objectionable, because it struck out that clause which provides that no old county shall be reduced to less than twenty miles square, and it also contained an arbitrary provision that no county should ever have more than twelve members, no matter how large its population.—This proposition passed the House by the constitutional majority, but was rejected in the Senate, by the votes of members from the large counties.

The session of the General Assembly was then within three days of the time appointed for its final adjournment, and as all the propositions that had been submitted had been rejected, the opinion prevailed that an adjournment would take place without any proposition to amend the Constitution. This was a very undesirable result of the efforts to equalize representation. It would have thrown the State into great confusion, and a most embittered and exasperating state of public feeling would have been engendered. It would have effectually postponed, for at least two years, all efforts even to propose further amendments in a constitutional form, and it would continue indefinitely our present outrageously unequal representation.

At the next session, the creation of new counties that would inevitably take place, would reduce the representation of St. Louis to one member; and then the same causes would prevail that now prevent the passage of any fair proposition to render representation equal. Nothing was to be hoped for from postponement until the next session, so far as the usual mode of amending the Constitution was concerned. The question then presented itself—Was the State to be thrown back into a state of revolution? Was this Republic to be involved in a state of anarchy and discord, and perhaps of bloodshed and fatal violence, by reason of fierce strife and contention on the subject of representation? Was Missouri to be involved in disgraceful and inglorious civil war, similar to the Dorr war in Rhode Island, for the purpose of obtaining equal representation by violent and revolutionary means? These were the questions practically presented; for an adjournment without making some proposition to amend the Constitution, must have been attended with these results. Such a state of things would be most unfortunate and disastrous in a country of law, order and good morals. Such a fatal result was much to be deprecated by all true patriots and philanthropists; by all sound, judicious statesmen, and by all who love our free institutions and desire their prosperity. A few political hotspots, who wish to convert the subject of representation into a miserable partisan squabble, might desire a different course, and might be willing to plunge the State into inextricable difficulties in order to make a little political capital out of the conflict; a pot-house politician, with his passions heated by artificial stimulants, might have his courage so elevated as to desire such a fatal conflict, and indulge the hope that in the fierce struggle incident to revolutionary remedies, he and his partisans might by chance fall uppermost. But such considerations ought to have no influence on men whose only aim and object is to promote the public peace and happiness, and to obtain justice by reasonable and lawful means. A prudent, conservative policy, under such circumstances, was much the wisest and most safe. This policy prevailed.

At the heel of the session, a proposition was offered to make one more final effort to agree on a proposition to amend the Constitution, by the appointment of a joint committee to confer on that subject, and it was adopted and the committee was appointed. This committee met and conferred; the thorough-going friends of equal representation tried in vain to secure the adoption of some of the most unobjectionable propositions that had been made, and it was found that the best that could be obtained was the proposition that had passed the House of Representatives, with some modifications. The committee agreed to modify the proposition by striking out the arbitrary clause that provided that no county shall ever have more than twelve members, by simplifying and slightly altering the scale of representation, so as to make it a little more favorable to the largest class of counties, and by restoring the important provision that no county shall ever be reduced to less than twenty miles square, by the creation of new counties. Thus modified, the proposition was reported, and passed both houses

by the constitutional majority, and is now submitted for the candid consideration of the people. Its submission to the people does not pass it; it does not incorporate it as a part of the Constitution; but only enables the people through their Representatives in the next General Assembly to say whether they will take it in preference to our present unjust and unequal system of representation. It is unnecessary to say that this proposition was ultimately assented to and voted for by several most decided friends of equal representation, not because they approved it, not because they considered it was what it ought to be, but because they were well satisfied that it was the best that could be obtained, and that it was better to submit it to the people for their deliberation than to plunge the State into anarchy, discord and revolution. They considered even a limited advance towards equal representation better than a mad Dorrite experiment, or any effort to force equal representation by violent or revolutionary means.

The proposition is now before the people for their action; if, under all the circumstances, they are opposed to it, they are free to reject it. If they prefer to remain quietly and submissively under our present unequal system of representation, they can vote down this proposition and do so. If, on the other hand, they prefer to take the risk and chance of obtaining greater equality by means unknown to the Constitution—by revolutionary remedies—by violence and civil war, or by any system of fierce agitation and commotion, they are still at liberty to pursue that course.—This proposition does not cut them off from any remedy which they would have had if it had not been made. The question then presents itself for the calm and patriotic consideration of the people.—What is best to be done under all the circumstances? This question should be considered and determined with a sincere desire to arrive at the truth, to form correct conclusions, and adopt a proper course of action. Those who desire to throw the community into commotion that they may ride on the billows, may pursue a different course; but the mass of the people will doubtless pursue that course which will best promote the peace, harmony and welfare of the State. The object of all should be to weigh the relative advantages of the proposed amendment, to compare it candidly by the present system of representation, and then dispassionately determine whether it so far approximates towards equality as to induce the friends of equality to accept it.

What then are the advantages of the proposed amendment over the present system? They are several. It proposes to increase the size of the House of Representatives about thirty or forty per cent., and to that extent renders representation more equal. The small counties that are under the ratio will each get one member as they now do, and the thirty or forty additional members will be distributed among the large and medium sized counties, which will materially increase their present relative power and influence in the House. This does not render representation equal, but it is one step towards it, and will increase the ability of the larger counties to effect further reforms hereafter.

The county of St. Louis now has four Representatives, and if no amendment be made, she will, after the next session, have only one; but if the proposed amendment be adopted she will have eight Representatives. This is not equality; it is less than St. Louis ought to have, but still it is much better than the present system, so far as this county is concerned.

The counties of Howard, Boone, Platte and Buchanan would probably have three members each under the proposed amendment—this would be a step towards equality in those counties—then more than twenty other counties that now have only one member would get two, and they would thus take a material step towards equal representation.

Is it expedient for the friends of equal representation to reject these gains, and refuse to take this step towards equal representation because perfect equality is not attained? We leave it to a free and intelligent people to determine.

The next advantage of the proposed amendment over our present plan of representation is, that it checks and restrains the improvident creation of new counties, which has heretofore been a great cause of unequal representation. New counties have heretofore been made with too much facility; they have been cut up so as to be quite too small, and they have been organized with very inadequate population. The proposed amendment provides a remedy for this, it declares that hereafter no new county shall be organized with a territory of less than five hundred square miles, and that no old county shall be reduced by the creation of new counties to less than five hundred square miles, nor to less than twenty miles square. It thus protects both the size and the form of the old counties; it also prevents the creation of any new county unless its population is equal to two-thirds of the ratio of representation at the time. These provisions will effectually prevent the creation of new counties in such numbers as to render representation unequal, and will cause all new counties to be more respectable in size.

The proposed amendment also contains a provision that will guard against long and expensive sessions of the Legislature. These are the advantages of the proposed amendment—it is good as far as it goes; the only objection to it is, that it does not go far enough; it approaches towards equality but does not reach it. It has no disadvantages. In order to accept of it we are not required to accept of many other odious and absurd amendments as was the case when the new Constitution was submitted to the people, nor will its adoption prevent any future reforms. A better proposition ought to have been submitted to the people, but when it could not be obtained, it was right to propose for their action the best that was attainable.—Eva.

REMAINS OF COLUMBUS.—The correspondent of the Charleston Courier says the Sardinian Government has entered into a negotiation with Spain for the restitution of the ashes of Christopher Columbus. The mortal remains of this great man, after having been first deposited at Seville, were removed to St. Domingo, where they remained until 1795, when they were taken to the Cathedral Church of Havana, where they now are.

A Massachusetts lady sent the following toast to the late celebration of the New England Society at Chicago:

Benjamin Franklin and Professor Morse—Sons of the old Bay State—the one drew the lightning from heaven, the other gave it voice and bade it speak to the world.

Public Lands—Taxes.—An act of Congress, passed 26th January, 1847, leaves land purchased of the United States, subject to taxation in the states where they lie, immediately after they are entered or purchased.